

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-02 /025 W

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R 210314Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9368

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: EARI, WS, NZ

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: APPLICATION OF SOUTH PACIFIC ISLAND

AIRWAYS TO GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN SAMOA

REF WELLINGTON'S 580

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED A REPLY TO ITS NOTES OF
DECEMBER 24 AND MARCH 5 TO THE GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN
SAMOA (GWS) CONCERNING THE WITHDRAWAL OF PAN AMERICAN
WORLD AIRWAYS AND DESIGNATION OF SOUTH PACIFIC ISLAND
AIRWAYS (SPIA) TO PROVIDE SCHEDULED SERVICE BETWEEN
AMERICAN SAMOA AND WESTERN SAMOA. THE PERTINENT
PART OF THE GWS NOTE FOLLOWS:

"THE PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT... ADVISES THAT
APPLICATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM SOUTH PACIFIC
ISLAND AIRWAYS FOR AN AIR SERVICE LICENSE TO
OPERATE ON THE ABOVE (AMERICAN SAMOA AND WESTERN
SAMOA) ROUTE.

"THE PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT REFERS THE
EMBASSY TO DISCUSSIONS HELD IN WASHINGTON DC
IN OCTOBER 1972 BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN SAMOA AND REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND
CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD AT WHICH IT WAS DECIDED
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THAT ACTIVATION OF THE RECIPROCAL PROVISIONS OF

THE PERMIT UNDER WHICH POLYNESIAN AIRLINES LIMITED OPERATES THE ABOVE MENTIONED ROUTE WOULD BE DEFERRED PENDING FURTHER CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN SAMOA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

"THE PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT ACCORDINGLY REQUESTS THAT SUCH CONSULTATIONS SHOULD NOW BE HELD AND THAT THE APPLICATION BY SOUTH PACIFIC ISLAND AIRWAYS BE DEFERRED PENDING THE OUTCOME OF SUCH CONSULTATIONS. THE PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT WOULD BE HAPPY TO SEE SUCH CONSULTATIONS TAKE PLACE IN APIA AND WILL AWAIT ADVICE FROM THE EMBASSY OF TENTATIVE DATES WHICH MIGHT BE CONVENIENT TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA."

2. EMBASSY FILES DO NOT CONTAIN DETAILS OF THE OCTOBER 1972 DISCUSSIONS OTHER THAN TWO REFERENCES CONTAINED IN ENCLOSURES 1 AND 2 TO DEPARTMENT A-5482 DATED JULY 9, 1974. ENCLOSURE 2 (LETTER FROM C F BUTLER, DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, CAB TO G A WRAY, PRESIDENT, SPIA,) IN REFERRING TO THESE DISCUSSIONS STATES "WHILE INTERGOVERNMENTAL DISCUSSIONS HAVE NOT RESULTED THIS MATTER. WE ARE PREPARED TO RESUME DISCUSSIONS AT AN EARLY DATE."

3. EMBASSY VIEWS THE REQUEST AS VERY LIKELY A MANEUVER TO DELAY ACCEDING TO SPIA REQUEST. WHATEVER MAY BE THE PRESENT PROFIT AND LOSS LEDGE FOR POLYNESIAN AIRLINES (PAL), GWS WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY VIEW WITH CONVERN INTRODUCTION OF COMPETITIVE AIR SERVICE ON THIS LEG OF ITS ROUTE.

4. ECON/COMM COUNSELOR IS SCHEDULED TO VISIT WESTERN SAMOA APRIL 22 THROUGH 24 BEFORE DEPARTING VIA PAGO PAGO FOR CONSULTATIONS WASHDC AND HOME LEAVE. IF DEPARTMENT IS PREPARED TO ACCEDE TO GWS REQUEST FOR CONSULTATIONS NOW AND BELIEVES THIS VISIT MIGHT USEFULLY BE NOTIFIED TO GWS AS CONSULTATIONS IN LINE WITH OCTOBER 1972 DISCUSSIONS, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EMBASSY IS PREPARED TO ADVISE GWS ACCORDINGLY. IN MEANTIME, DEPARTMENT CAN PREPARE INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE AS GUIDANCE IN DISCUSSIONS.

5. IF DEPARTMENT WOULD PROPOSE TO SEND DEPARTMENT AND/OR CAB OFFICER FOR CONSULTATIONS, EMBASSY BELIEVES IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF TIMING COULD COINCIDE WITH ECON/COMM COUNSELOR VISIT TO WS.

6. PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST.
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